(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) It is a fact that steel producers have had to absorb part of the increase in costs of inputs without passing it on to the consumers because of the current market situation.

(b) and (c) Some of the major inputs for the main steel producers come under the administered price regime. The price policy in respect of these items aims at stabilising prices of critical commodities. In the budget of 1993-94, Customs Duties on import of inputs like graphite, refractory raw materials were also reduced.

Market value IISCO steel plant

2223. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the book and market values of IISCO steel plant;

(b) what were the factories that had lead to nationalisation of IISCO and now leading to privatisation;

(c) what is the average price of land and prevailing market price in that area per acre;

(d) what are the infrastructures developed around IISCO;

(e) whether any attempts were made to make technological changes or to modernisation and investment made on this account;

(f) what was the strength of the staff and workers at IISCO when it was nationalised and what is their strength now; and

(g) whether per capital and total production increased with the staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The Book Value of assets of all units of IISCO, in terms of net asset value, as on 31-3-93, is Rs. 436.41 crores. Neither unit-wise information nor the market value of IISCO's steel plant is available.

(b) Factors like unsatisfactory management of the affairs of the company, deterioration in the condition of the Burnpur Steel Works leading to decline in the company's performance, need for continuity and development of production of steel through programmed investments on modernisation of the steel works led to nationalisation of IISCO. The proposal to enlist private participation in IISCO is mainly because of severe financial constraints being faced by Government and SAIL's inability to raise the requisite funds needed for financing the cost of modernisation of the Burnpur Steel Works.

(c) It is not possible to indicate the average price or the market price of the land because IISCO's land at Burnpur is scattered in different areas/locations and the land value varies from location to location.

(d) The infrastructure developed around IISCO include the Grand Trunk Road in close proximity, South-Eastern and Eastern Railway Service facilities, the Maithon Power Station of Damodar Vally Corporation, Aerial Rope-way to Chasnala Coal Mines; etc. besides the land developed, construction powers water supplies arranged, approach road laid etc., as part of preliminary works for modernisation of the Burnpur Steel Works.

(e) Yes, Sir. An expenditure of about Rs. 150 crores was incurred on works which are pdeliminary and enabling in nature for the purpose of modernisation of the Budnpur Steel Works.

(f) The break-up of the manpower of IISCO as on 1-4-72 and 1.4.93 is given below:

Date	Executives	Non-executives	Total
1-4-72	744	34,342	35,586
1-4-93	1,609	31,690	33,299

(g) The rate of per capita productivity, in terms of ingot tonnes/man year, was 25 in 1988-89, 19 in 1989-90, 21 in 1990-91, 25 in 1991-92 and 27 in 1992-93.

Interest shown by Gulf countries in Sail, Steel

2224. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several Gulf countries have evinced keen interest in SAIL, Steel and on export of services like training of personnel and commissioning of mills;

(b) if so, what are the names of such countries; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) No exports of steel have been made by SAIL so far in the current year (1993-94), to the Gulf countries.

A request for training of personnel has come from Iran in pursuance of a recent MOU signed with the Iranian Government (Ministry of Mines and Metals). Firm offers based on SAIL's response are yet to materialise.

देश में इस्पात के उत्पादन की लागत

2225. डा० जितेन्द्र कुमार जैन :
श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :

क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 1 नवम्बर, 1993 को "दि इकानामिक टाइम्स" में "इण्डियन स्टील मोस्ट कास्ट-इफेक्टिव" शीर्षक के अन्तर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि देश में कतिपय इस्पात उत्पादों की कराधान से पूर्व लागत विश्व के अनेक देशों की तुलना में बहुत कम है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस्पात की विभिन्न किस्में कौन-कौन सी है और जापान, ब्रिटेन और चीन इत्यादि देशों की तुलना में इन किस्मों की लागत कितनी कम है ;

(घ) क्या सरकार के अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में इस्पात की इन किस्मों के निर्यात को बढ़ावा देने हेतु संबंधित विभागों से वर्तमान कराधान प्रणाली में परिवर्तन करने का आग्रह किया है ; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

इस्पात मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष मोहन देव) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) और (ग) अन्य देशों में इस्पात उत्पादन लागत के बारे में कोई प्रामाणि